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ABSTRACT

Youth Community Service (YCS), is the largest, urban, school-based service program in the nation. Through chapters on 24 high school campuses and district-wide leadership development retreats and conferences, YCS students examine community issues, and plan, initiate, and complete community service projects. This document is a yearly publication documenting students' experience with community service, their thoughts, and ideas. The following topics are addressed: alumni news, children and our peers, environment, general projects, the homeless, leadership development, national scene, reflection, senior citizens, school roster, thanks to teachers, YCS in action, and youth policy. (DB)

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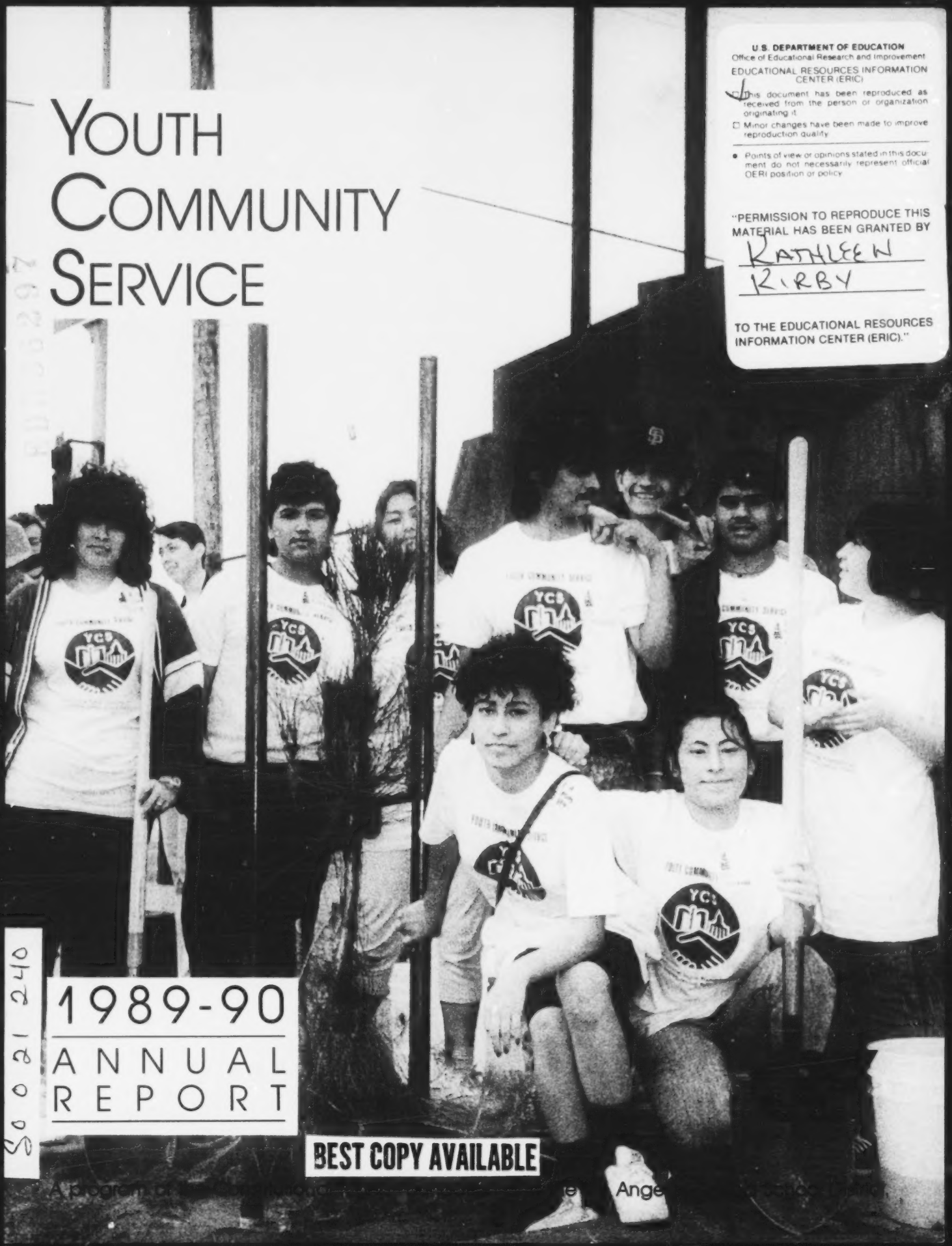

1989-90 ANNUAL REPORT

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INTRODUCING YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE and the CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION

Youth Community Service (YCS), a joint project of the Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) and the Los Angeles Unified School District since 1984, is the largest, urban, school-based youth service program in the nation and a model of how a non-profit and a school district can work together to promote civic participation. Through chapters on 24 high school campuses and district-wide leadership development retreats and conferences, YCS students examine community issues, and initiate, plan and complete community service projects.

A teacher sponsor at each school site, administrators, Community Resource Volunteers (volunteer professionals), and program alumni serve as role models and guide students in establishing meaningful and pro-active ways to interact with their communities. CRF staff coordinates overall program organization and provides comprehensive materials, leadership development programming, and technical support to each school group.

In six program years, YCS has demonstrated that youth who are challenged to understand social issues and explore their own capacity to make a difference become more sensitized to diversity, interested in school, and are buffered from gang activity, substance abuse, low self-esteem and academic stress. They acquire the ideals of citizenship. Adults tell them they are needed and youth prove they care!

This journal is a sample of the thoughtful reflection of over 1,000 youth participants in YCS. You will read of their efforts, struggles, challenges, ideas, wisdom, and success that come with serving others.

About CRF

Established in 1962, CRF is a non-profit, non-partisan, community-based organization, dedicated to educating young people to be more effective citizens. Governed by a fifty-five member Board of Directors representing law, business, government, education, the media, and the community, CRF provides a wide-range of law-related, business, citizenship and leadership development programs, curriculum materials, and teacher trainings emphasizing student interaction. CRF seeks to instill in our nation's youth a deeper understanding of citizenship through values expressed in our Constitution and its Bill of Rights and educate them to become active and responsible participants in our society.

Major funding for YCS is provided by *THE MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION*. Special Thanks for their generous grant. Additional funding from the Parsons, ARCO, California Community, Ford, Ralph M. Parsons, Roth, Drown and Ahmanson Foundations and McDonnell Douglas West.

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Todd Clark, *Executive Director*
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Marshall Croddy, *Director of Program & Material Development*

YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE STAFF, CRF
Cathryn Berger Kaye, *Project Director*
Luisa Perez DeCamp, *Project Manager*
Megan Swezey, *Project Manager*
Jennifer Appleton, *Project Coordinator*
Lanning Gold, *Cover Design and Publications Assistance*

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION
601 South Kingsley Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90005
(213) 487-5590

Production: Pax Publishing

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A YEAR TO REMEMBER 1989-90

September 6-7 – The YCS Annual Teacher Sponsor Planning Conference. Teachers discussed nuts and bolts of YCS, the purpose of community resources, exchanged ideas and clarified roles and expectations. Sid Thompson, Deputy Superintendent of School Operations, spoke on LAUSD policy and the importance of student service. At monthly meetings, teachers continued to dialogue, review projects, and develop strategies for YCS success!

October 7 – "Youth Community Service: Vision and Action For The 21st Century." Over 200 YCS students and staff were hosted at TreePeople Park for the first YCS conference of the year. We completed service projects, and met speakers presenting on the homeless, environment, elderly, AIDS, drugs and gangs, and racism. Los Angeles High drafted a YCS creed we unanimously accepted.

November 16-17 – Youth Community Service Leadership Retreat. Full of excitement, new YCS members arrived at Camp Hess Kramer in Malibu. Teachers and students explored leadership, exchanged views with program alumni, role-played project development in "Main Street U.S.A.", and interviewed community guests on working with disabled youth, domestic violence, immigrant youth, teen pregnancy, child abuse, runaways, drugs, homelessness and more!

January 13 – King Boulevard Memorial Project. Over 250 YCS students braved stormy skies to plant 300 pine trees along Martin Luther King Boulevard commemorating Dr. King's Birthday. Students trained as planting supervisors and directed volunteers.

February 24 – "See the Magic in YCS." Hosted by the enthusiastic Van Nuys High YCS group, this one-day conference included unique workshops conducted by community guest speakers on skill development and a range of project possibilities. Each workshop offered opportunities to question, think, experience and reflect. With the Los Angeles Conservation Corps, YCS painted out graffiti around the school and neighborhood.

March 1-31 – March for Service. During March for Service, all 24 YCS high schools record student service hours - one hour of volunteer service = a body on their school YCS banner. Added together, the results are awesome!

April 27 – National Youth Service Day. Sponsored by Youth Service America and Campus Outreach Opportunity League (COOL), YCS members performed dozens of projects and recorded them in photos to be sent to Washington D.C. for display. YCS made a presentation to the L.A. City Council on April 27 on student service.

April 28 – Law Day Service Projects. Keeping with CRF's Law Day conference theme "Generations of Justice," YCS organized student civic participation projects. Over 300 students assembled sack lunches for the homeless, made cards for seniors, wrote letters to save the rainforest, registered voters and placed a flag on the country representing their heritage.

May 1 – YCS Summit. 30 schools participated in the first YCS Summit at USC. Students, teachers and administrators exchanged recruitment ideas, and ways to integrate community service across the curriculum and into extra-curricular activities.

June 9 – Fourth Annual YCS Picnic "Magical Time Under the Sun." Excited YCS members organized food and games for 100 guests from Hathaway Homes for abused children. YCS decorated children's faces with paint led potato sack races, tug-of-war, and volleyball. Hathaway children departed with a certificate and a big smile!

Special thanks to the many teachers and students who devoted extra time to make these events successful!

YCS Annual Report

The YCS Annual Report is a yearly publication documenting students experience with community service, their thoughts and ideas. The 1989-90 Annual illustrates the themes addressed by the students, from project initiation through reflection.

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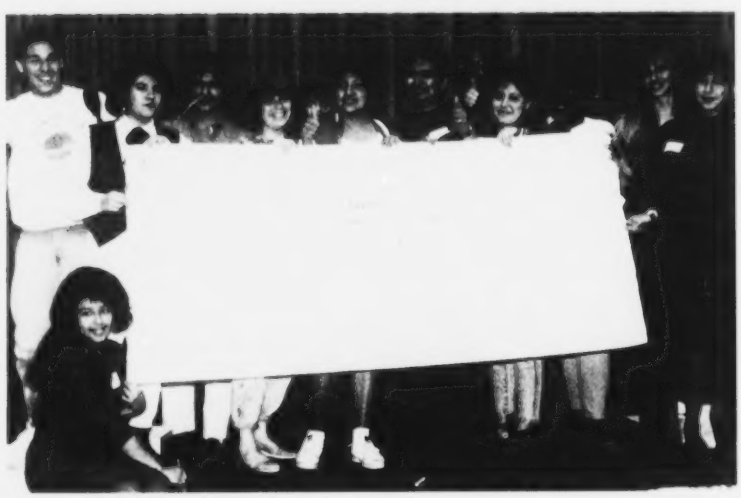
WE ARE LEADERS

My reason for going to the YCS Leadership Development Retreat was to get away from school for two days. However, the moment I arrived, the most fun-packed two days of my life began.

The students did many activities: playing people bingo, dancing, picking up trash so we could learn about recycling, learning how to organize a project, waking up at dawn so we could watch the sunrise at the beach, and many, many more. We never got bored.

The CRF staff and students I met all came together as one group with a cause instead of an adults group who take charge of the teenagers' group. At first it was awkward for students to talk with each other since we all came from different schools and some didn't know how to speak English. As the day progressed, everybody was talking to everybody else. For example, I was in a group of ten students where we had to determine, draw, and write on a drawing of a body what a leader should be. Half the students in my groups didn't speak English. We communicated together by combining body language with our poor knowledge of Spanish words. We did not get much done, but we had a great time trying to tell each other what we were thinking and then congratulating ourselves each time we understood each other.
Kate Ung, Franklin High

The YCS Retreat taught me about friendship, understanding prejudice, and helping the community. I learned that friendship is very important in life. Being friendly and having lots of friends can help people to work and live together as a happy group. I learned a person should not have any prejudicial feeling of sex or race, because if people have prejudices the world will be in conflict. Finally I learned how to make our community a better place for ourselves and the future generation to live. We can better the community for our future generations.
Tam Thai, Franklin High



In Malibu, we did several interesting things such as talking about being a leader and taking responsibilities. We also did "Main Street USA," an activity with students from all over gathering to plan service projects. Groups of 8 students worked with an adult; we formed our own "high school." We talked about Special Olympics, racism, leadership, and many other topics. In our free time we played volleyball, had a walk on the beach, and saw the sunrise at 6:00 a.m. At night, we had a dance; it was okay. The food was fine, too.
Fiona Firmalino, Canoga Park

The TreePeople site has lots of trees and land and is far away from the many people in Los Angeles. The opening activity requested that everyone think about and share what we are going to be in the year 2000. I said I will be working and making money as a businessperson working for a big corporation.

The opening speakers had a lot of good things to say. Odaris Jordan from LAUSD talked about life and the two kinds of people in it. She used the thermometer and thermostat as analogies: the thermometer just registers the temperature, while the thermostat is the one that actually controls the temperature. That was a good analogy, because in life there are two kinds of people: the leaders and the followers.

Andy Lipkis told us how he started TreePeople and the organization. He told us one person can make a difference. I think that is very true. One person may not be able to change the world, but one person can make a difference.

There were a number of workshops to chose from. I chose the environmental workshop. People representing Heal the Bay showed slides of life under the sea. They talked about their organization and how they are trying to clean up the water. We also split into groups and talked about how we could conserve energy at home and at school.

There were also a number of service projects to chose from. I chose to plant pine tree seeds in tubes. I had a good time at TreePeople, and if I had a chance to go again, I would!
Dung Ho, Reseda High

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The YCS conference on October 7, 1989 was entitled "Youth Community Service: Vision and Action for the 21st Century." The students attended workshops dealing with issues on the homeless, the elderly, understanding gangs, and drugs, racism, and the condition of the Earth. These workshops were meant to inform students and help them get in contact with agencies and develop projects in their schools. Another reason was to get groups united for community service and focus on improving conditions in Los Angeles for the year 2000.

The students were involved in service projects at the park: planting tree seeds, sorting saplings, spreading wood chips, installing an irrigation system, sweeping off paved surfaces around the park, and writing letters concerning the destruction of the rain forest.

Karen Lee, Reseda

The TreePeople Park Conference was my first YCS sponsored activity. I really had no idea of the emotional satisfaction that awaited me. The TreePeople staff made me realize that I had to do something if nobody else would. The service project involved spreading wood chips – hard, exhausting work! While I was working, it dawned on me that I was shoveling for the community, not for money. It made me feel good and gave me a feeling of strength. I felt like I had the power to change my environment for the better.

YCS has done a lot for my emotional well-being. But the TreePeople Park Conference was one to remember. I encourage everyone to join YCS and realize the benefits it will provide you.

Jim Perez Marta, Belmont High

Board of Education member Julie Korenstein talks about the value of community service.

PROJECT STEPS

Step By Step Guide To Launching A Leadership Project And How Los Angeles High YCS Did It!

1. *Choose a topic that interests you.* A small group formed the Teen/Education Committee because we were concerned about education and youth with special needs.
2. *Pick a chairperson who is ultimately responsible for the committee's activities, and brainstorm projects.* The Teen/Education Committee listed possible projects such as tutoring at an elementary school, working with latch-key kids and volunteering for Special Olympics.
3. *Explore various projects, make contact with Community Resource Volunteers, school staff, and/or related agencies. Find out their needs. After collecting information and considering schedules and transportation, narrow to one idea and compromise if necessary.* After contacting the elementary school administration, we decided to tutor elementary students weekly during lunch and 5th period.
4. *Complete a Project Proposal Form including: location, time, date, and contact person.* Our Chairperson completed the proposal and shared it with committee members.
   Site: Queen Anne Elementary
   Time: Every other Thursday, 12:30-2:00
   Contact: Ms. Rudnick, Assistant Principal
5. *Submit proposal to Teacher Sponsor for approval. Once approved, make copies for high school administration and Site Agency.* We discussed the proposal with our Teacher Sponsor and after making changes, it was approved! Copies of the final proposal were distributed to our administration and Queen Anne's principal.
6. *Get the project started. More time should be spent serving than planning.* We got trip slips signed and met at the flagpole at 12:10 P.M. on the first Thursday. At Queen Anne we met Ms. Rudnick and were assigned classrooms and students. At 1:45 P.M. we met in Ms. Rudnick's office to sign out and return to school.

This was only the beginning. We continue to recruit tutors, discuss how to make the program better, and share what we learn! Good Luck!

Ling Quach and Maria Tolentino
Los Angeles High

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SERVING CHILDREN AND OUR PEERS

Para Los Ninos (For the Children), an organization that provides food, clothing, and day care to needy families in downtown Los Angeles, received 125 toys from a toy drive at Franklin High. This toy drive led by Kathy Dellamo was held December 4-15. Gifts were donated by students, teachers, friends, and neighbors. Our gifts looked like more than enough to distribute, but as we arrived to deliver them, they seemed very few.

During Christmas vacation we delivered the gifts to the facility, where about 50 families waited to receive holiday food bags. These people were a very small fraction of needy families in Los Angeles.

We toured the facility, and I quickly understood some of the problems these children and their families face. Many live in slum hotels that are unsafe with very bad sanitary conditions. Many children play in the hotel fire escapes and halls; some remain in one-bedroom apartments all day.

I had read about these things in newspapers and television, but here I was face to face with them. The visit was very depressing, but, it made me see many things I have taken for granted - living in a decent neighborhood, having my own bedroom, and even simple things like Christmas dinner. Hopefully our toy drive at Franklin will become an annual activity.
Liliana Narvaez, Franklin High

On October 26, Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies' YCS members organized and took part in a Halloween Awareness project held at Carthay Circle and Community Elementary Schools.

The project consisted of Halloween tips, a Halloween safety rap, and McGruff Halloween hand-outs. YCS members talked to elementary students about having a safe Halloween and we listened to their interesting views and questions. For one YCS member, it was exciting and quite shocking to learn about the vast knowledge and language the kids have picked up.

We look forward to more challenging experiences that will make us better aware of our community's needs.
Danielle Davis and Edward Edmondson
Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies

My favorite project involvement was also my first volunteer project. In a joint effort with the citizen center across from our school, we organized a Halloween party. I filled up helium balloons and handed them out to kids. After this, I took over a contest in which kids competed for goldfish.
Antonio Quinonez, Reseda High

Volunteering with CHAMPS, Choosing Healthy Alternatives Makes People Strong, is interesting and serious, but fun. In CHAMPS we educate children on drug and child molestation. Only we can stop drug abuse in the children. If we don't who will? We meet every Wednesday for children age 5-9, Monday for children 9-12. This project is very important to me and the children. There is no feeling like helping a young child.
Scott Anderson, Reseda High

Every other Thursday, my partner and I attended Queen Anne Place Elementary School during part of 4th, lunch and 5th periods to assist and teach the 3rd grade students. I make charts and go arounnd the class to help to any student in need. My class is bilingual which helps me to practice Spanish. This program will continue until the end of the semester. I enjoy the program and hope to continue. The students are really interesting and adorable. I am really glad to work with them.
Chong Mi Kim, Los Angeles High

Lincoln High YCS introduce local elementary school children to their school campus.

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On Wednesday, February 14, 1990, a group of 10 Huntington Park High YCS members brought a little "sweetness" into the lives of the handicapped children at Pacific Boulevard School. In cooperation with their staff, YCS members led a special party with picture-taking, face-painting, an afternoon dance, and giving of candies and other goodies. YCS members combed the community and got balloons and candies donated from Tianguis, and helium and streamers from Wilburns Party Supplies.

For several YCS members this was our first time involved in a project with handicapped children. Many commented on how this activity altered their view of handicapped people and their capabilities. YCS members gained a greater sense of self-worth by realizing their own power to make a difference.
Huntington Park High

On October 30, 1989, Franklin's YCS brought Halloween happiness to the Soto Street Children's Center and the Highland Park Community Center. YCS members made little Halloween treats and decorated pumpkins to give to the children.
Karen Lee, Franklin High

Canoga Park High's YCS held their second-annual Adopt-a-Child Drive. Along with the community's Cathay Association for the Care of Foster Children, YCS members are bringing a smile to many of "Cathay's Children."

Last year we raised over $2000 for the cause, and this year we exceeded this total. With this money, the wishes of many children will be fulfilled this Christmas.

Canoga Parks' YCS was also involved in the Adopt-a-Special Education Student Drive. The drive involves the adoption of each special education student by a YCS member and presenting them with a gift at a small party thrown in their honor.

These activities bring joy to the participants and the planners.
Wendy Hernandez, Canoga Park High School

Was I ever so
young?
So curious? So
vulnerable?
So eager to please
and be loved?
Yes. I was.
Were you there for me?
Beni Seballos, Reseda High

An important part of YCS is the people I work with at CHAMPS, Choosing Healthy Alternatives Makes People Strong. CHAMPS is a program centered around working with young children aimed at drug-use prevention through self-esteem and self-awareness. I cannot think of any tool as valuable in today's society as self-esteem. It makes a person feel good about themselves and their environment, so hopefully that person can help someone else.

The kids in CHAMPS are not going to remember me always, but I have already seen positive improvements in several of the kids. The group has grown closer to one another. The sweetest thing I have seen in YCS is two of the girls in CHAMPS hugging to make-up after they had an argument.

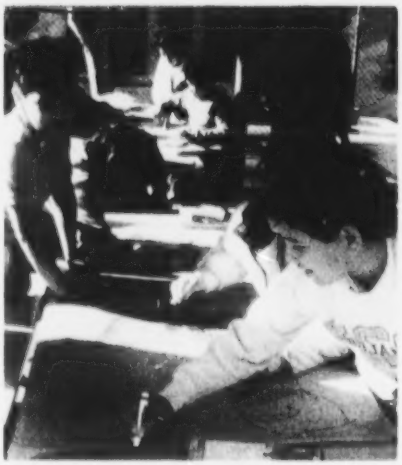
One thing made me happier than anything else, not just in YCS, but in the whole year: the smiles and hugs I receive from the kids in CHAMPS!
Angela Kim, Grant High School

Every other Thursday, Los Angeles High volunteers tutor at Queen Anne Elementary School, about four blocks from our high school. The school principal and volunteers get along well. Students develop wonderful relationships with the children.

Through interactions with younger kids, we are motivated to explore careers in education. YCS Project Chairperson Tien Tran has enjoyed tutoring since day one. He takes great pride in his volunteer work and never misses a day. His influence on youth is great; they adore him. Tien, who had no career objectives before, now wants to become a teacher.

When I went to tutor, I attended a math class. We wanted to help but didn't know what we were doing. We were supposed to be tutoring the kids but somehow it ended up the other way around!

Tutoring elementary students is a fine project, especially when high school participants work together.
Maria Tolentino, Los Angeles High



Latona Elementary joins YCS!

Huntington Park YCS hosts Valentine Party for Pacific Boulevard School for handicapped children.

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FOR A BETTER TODAY

When I heard about getting children involved in doing community service, it dawned on me to start an elementary school service club. I consulted my fifth grade brother, and he was very excited and interested! I chose his elementary school as the site.

I met the school principal, Mr. Ugliano to discuss scheduling and school restrictions. I did not know what to expect and was excited to find he was in favor of Latona Elementary becoming the first public elementary school with a Youth Community Service club. He agreed children should do things for their community. We set a date for me to address 5th and 6th grade students.

When I met with the students I was a little nervous. I started with a "hang man" guessing game (the word was COMMUNITY) to get their attention. Then I asked them to explain what community meant. They defined community as "friends, family, business, the homeless, and neighborhood." We discussed the problems in the community and I was surprised to find they were aware of gangs, drugs, and more. They offered solutions I never considered!
At the first official Latona Avenne Elementary Youth Community Service (YCS) meeting with 23 eager fifth and sixth graders, we talked about leadership. Students mentioned Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and President George Bush. They built their own leaders on butcher paper giving body parts a purpose, for example, "guts for bravery," "hands to hold," "ears to listen," etc..

So far students have made teacher appreciation cards, planted flowers in the school yard for Earth Day, made "Don't Drink and Drive" badges to distribute at a carwash, engaged in numerous leadership development activities and more. In the fall I hope to have a youth service conference for elementary volunteers.

Even though I had to reschedule my classes and give up softball, I know starting this program is valuable. Thanks to Mr. Ugliano and the Constitutional Rights Foundation, children will learn the importance of giving and doing things for others.
Liliana Narvaez, Franklin High

On a Saturday afternoon I read an article in the *Northeast Newspaper*, "Families Suffer Tragedies Silently." A Highland Park family was in a terrible car accident. A couple and two children in the back of a covered pick-up were hit by a man driving a gas tank under the influence of narcotics. The tank exploded, one of the children died, and 3-year-old Jaimito Rodriguez was burned over 90% of his body. My friend Liliana Narvaez and I decided to do a car wash to raise money for the Sherman Oaks Burn Center where Jaimito was treated. At the car wash we passed out pamphlets on drug abuse and small signs reading "Don't Drink and Drive" that customers could hang on their mirrors. The signs were made by the Latona Elementary Youth Community Service group. Over 20 Franklin students, one elementary student, and two parents helped out. A big problem was getting information pamphlets. We called police stations, community relations departments, council offices and no one had any! With persistence, we wrote the National Clearinghouse For Alcohol and Drug Information in Rockville, MD. Four weeks later we received 200 pamphlets! It was exciting. Thanks to the volunteers we raised $140 for the Burn Center!
Maribel Orozco, Franklin High

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We started the Advanced Placement Literary Society to help Belmont High students pass the college credit exam. Volunteer educators conduct two-hour seminars on Fridays and Saturdays, teaching students ways to tackle the test. Through the seminars we hope to expose students to the world of literature and the beauty of poetry, not only to appreciate it, but also to be able to analyze it. The purpose of literature is to develop critical thinking skills necessary in all careers. To have a mind that thinks beyond the superficial helps us make precise deductions, thus reducing mistakes. Literature is life.
Joanne Ngoc Tran, Sophany Sin, Chan Truong
Belmont High

The Mock Trial Club is being formed by YCS to bring CRF's Mock Trial Program to Belmont High. The objective of the club is to help students understand the U.S. legal system. Students will be part of fictitious cases, able to experience all the emotions of real court characters. The students will then be in competitions with other schools. Since so many teens have been convicted of felonies and misdemeanors, this project will give them a look at the court system.
Elizabeth Park, Belmont High

"Spirits in Action" at USC on Saturday, March 3, was a success! Los Angeles High YCS members attended the early morning training at 7:15 a.m. "Spirits" deals with teenagers with disabilities who are around the age of 16. There were some who are older. These students come from different schools to participate and compete in different events such as softball throwing, long jump, basketball, and races.

Volunteers were required to stay all day for they are "buddies" with a disabled student. Volunteers are their guides to the events, cheer them on, and become their friends.

As a volunteer, my first feeling towards my buddy was discomfort. I really did not know how to treat her or what to say after I introduced myself. My friend and I were teamed with Saadia, our buddy, and soon we really had fun. We were so united that all the volunteers and the students were holding hands as we paraded down the track and field. We went dancing, ate lunch together, and took pictures with the Domino Pizza Noid, Bugs Bunny and others. The students are so high-spirited and energetic that after lunch while all the volunteers were resting they wanted to go dancing - so all of us had to go!

This project is valuable because of the necessity for awareness of students with disabilities. Often, society treats them as if they did not exist. As community service students, we have to change attitudes by interacting with these students.

We also had a chance to work with college students on this project. We found out that we share the same interest - a concern about our community.

L.A. High students strongly encourage others to get involved in projects such as this.
Houng Ly, Mindy Kousonsanomg,
and Maria Tolentino, Los Angeles High

There was joy, laughter and excitement on April 21 for YCS members. We received t-shirts and refreshments while having a ball with the children at Betty Plascencia Elementary. We chose a buddy to take care of during the parent conference, "Coping with Crisis." Children were busy coloring pictures, tricycling, playing handball and climbing the monkey bars. Through all of the excitement, the volunteers had time to rest and meet YCS members from other schools. While we rested, the children had refresments and watched a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles cartoon.

My most memorable moment was enjoying the laughter and happiness of the children as well as the YCS members. Time flew by and we soon had to leave. We bid farewell to the children and promised to visit. I strongly advise YCS members to join in this unforgettable experience when you have the chance.
Bouasone Mekdara, Los Angeles High

L.A. High student and "buddy" enjoy Spirits in Action at USC.

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SHARING WITH SENIORS

On October 28, 15 Hamilton students visited the County Villa, South Convalescent Home in West Los Angeles. Students visited with the residents, performed a short Halloween play and shared in the singing of nostalgic songs. Here are some student reflections of their day:

This visit was my fourth trip to the convalescent home; it was really nice to recognize the people by name. After our routine visits with our friends, we performed a play version of "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" By Charles M. Schultz. Although we were not quite organized, many people were thrilled with our costumes and props. We ended our day singing nostalgic songs. It seems so funny when I recall my first visit to the home – I was so apprehensive and nervous! Now it has become a special place and I look forward to each visit.
Maika Watanabe, Hamilton High

The visits to the convalescent home so deeply stirred my sentimental emotions. It still amazes me how much the people there thank us and hug us for just talking to them. The visits give me an overwhelming feeling of happiness, knowing how much one smile does for a person.
Roxanna Lopez, Hamilton High

I was fortunate to be among YCS students from Hamilton High who have visited the Country Villa Convalescent Home several times this year. During these visits, we went from room to room talking with patients. Since our first visit was in October, we performed "The Great Pumpkin" for everyone. In December, we sang Christmas and Hanukkah songs. During March, we brought three-leaf clovers with special messages for each patient. Along with having a truly great time, each visit provided a unique and rewarding experience for all those who participated.
Melanie Lucero, Hamilton High

On Friday, April 6, Lincoln High's YCS group went to the Keiro House Senior Home. When we were going in, we saw many elderly people in wheel chairs, so I said to myself it was going to be difficult. I thought they would not want to do anything.

It was difficult because some residents did not want to play the games set out for us, but we students soon realized that we needed to do more than just play games to make the Keiro residents happy. They needed someone just to talk to them and show interest in their lives so they can laugh and feel happy for a while. When we left, we all bowed and said "Saya nora." The smiles on the faces of the men and women of Keiro House were beautiful.
Arlene Nunez, Lincoln High

Wishing to bring Easter greetings to Highland Park's senior citizens, YCS members from Franklin High delivered candy-filled eggs and Easter cards to two convalescent hospitals and the area's senior citizen center on April 11 in our Spring Cheer Project. Stops included Sycamore Park Convalescent Hospital, Amberwood Convalescent Hospital, and the Highland Park Senior Citizen Center.

Since the winter of 1988, junior Lilliana Narvaez led Franklin's YCS members on bi-annual visits with the senior citizens. Students spent afternoons and some time during Spring vacation decorating Easter cards and stuffing candy into the plastic eggs. YCS members distributed cards and candy. All had a good time participating in the Spring Cheer Project.
Karen Lee, Franklin High

I feel myself
grow old
My eyes go blind
My hands shake
Please, Lord, let
someone also
help me out
When tomorrow's dawns
grow dark on
me.
Beni Seballos, Reseda High

Dear Hamilton YCS:

Spring is here and with it, a spirit of renewal – the life force you bring to Country Villa South Residents no matter what the season.

I am continually touched by what you do for the elderly men and women you've "adopted" here. Your gifts of attention, affection and care connect them to themselves and to the world in a way no other activity can. What you mean to them is greater than words and can only be said in the mute language of the heart.

Each resident you visit feels stronger, more valuable because of you. Their gratitude and mine is always present, if not always spoken.

This Sunday will be my last day as Activity Director at County Villa South. For personal reasons I am moving on. It's been a privilege and a great pleasure working with you, knowing you and I've come to think of you as friends. I know the bonds you've made with your residents will remain intact, and soon there will be a new Activity Director who will be in touch with you.

So many thanks for all you do for the Country Villa South residents. A Happy Passover, Happy Easter and God's blessing to you.
Warmest regards, Lynne Miller

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HELPING THE HOMELESS

Kareen Medly and I planned a Clothes Drive for Para Los Ninos. Clothes were collected from the student body and given to homeless children and parents. The project helped promote awareness of, and support for, society's growing problem of homelessness. As high school students, leaders of the next generation, we are responsible for providing a better environment. The drive was an opportunity to show our Los Angeles High School Roman pride – WE CARE!
Maria Tolentino, Los Angeles High

Early Thanksgiving morning, YCS members gathered in front of L.A. High to prepare for our trip to the Venice Pavilion. Jose Zelaya, L.A. High YCS alumnus who now works at Children's Institute International, took some of us; the rest went by bus.

We all noticed a long line of people waiting to be fed. They had started serving the delicious food near the entrance of Venice Beach. There was a big pile of free clothing donated for the people to keep warm in the coming winter. Mario gave us instructions and we were ready to go. We could see the hungry faces of people enjoying their Thanksgiving meal. There were many other volunteers also, older ones who could balance a tray, serving food and refreshments to the people at the tables. They served coffee or punch and milk, turkey, pies, seasoned breads, and a lot of other foods that people seemed to enjoy.

Everyone seemed full of spirits and holiday cheer. Volunteers from the Venice Beach Tabernacle sang songs of love, caring, and thanks. Many people applauded and some sang along. A colorful clown with an umbrella entertained the children.

We all had a great time. I will remember and cherish this Thanksgiving day for the rest of my life. Thanks to Monica's parents and Jose Zelaya, we all got home safely to a piping hot Thanksgiving dinner.
Bouachanh Mekdara, Los Angeles High

Volunteers assemble sack lunches for the homeless at CRF's Law Day Conference.

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YCS AND THE ENVIRONMENT: GOING FOR THE GLOBE

"—to alert the people of the plight of the environment."

This line from the YCS "By the Year 2000" Pledge, written this year at Los Angeles High School, embodies one of the great concerns of today, and of today's youth. The 1980's have passed, leaving a legacy of pollution and environmental chaos, making the terms "global warming," "hole in the ozone layer," "oil spill," and "acid rain" household words. But in the wake of all this, names like "Green Peace" and "TreePeople" and campaigns for environmental awareness have risen and taken hold throughout the world. This first year of the last decade of the 20th Century sees the Exxon Valdez trial, the mass tree-planting on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Los Angeles, the 20th anniversary of Earth Day, and the advent of the preservation of Mother Earth as *the* hot cause and topic.

As Youth Community Service (YCS) betters the community, the plight of the environment and ways to help it become clearly evident, as demonstrated by Los Angeles High YCS this year. In December, 30 students and teachers endeavored to rid parts of the school of visual pollution – graffiti. In February, an enormous group of YCS students dominated whole blocks as trained supervisors and volunteers in the King Blvd. Memorial Planting. Youth recognize the environmental problems brought on by years of ignorance and ambivalence will not go away by themselves or overnight – but if we students continue to work for the Earth, then perhaps our small contributions will have positive global effects. Think of the Earth's well-being as a medal or prize and we are competitors for that prize, going for the gold – except we are trying for an even greater prize: we are going for the globe!
Jason Sperber, Los Angeles High

In recent years, there has been a lot of publicity on environmental issues. It is about time people are educated on what is happening to our earth. Still, there are many ignorant people who just don't care.

That can change if we, the next generation, put an effort into making a difference. Little things such as recycling, can make a difference! Someday everyone could be recycling and doing things to save our environment. Why not be one of the first?
Yim Tam, Franklin High YCS

Little seed, I
put you now
In dark, fresh mud.
Mother Earth we
now share in
this young one's
life—
Beni Seballos, Reseda High

Sunday, April 22, was Earth Day, an international project celebrating the 20th anniversary of the first Earth Day. I went to the Santa Monica Pier event. Among the celebrities were Jeff Bridges and Chevy Chase. One of the major topics of the event was a discussion on river and rain systems. The program served well in presenting to the community a good collection of independent organizations taking interest in volunteer and ecological concerns.
Antonio Quinonez, Reseda High

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We have had some exciting YCS projects in school this year, like the St. Patrick's Day grams. But the biggest project was planning and Earth Week to celebrate Earth Day on April 22. We organized a poster contest with the winner getting a limited edition Earth Day t-shirt. We chose P.E. classes from Periods 1-3 and organized a trash pick up at school. Some other teachers brought their classes out to help. We invited 3rd period classes to listen to the guest speakers we invited. The entire week we had different homerooms and teachers bringing in their aluminum cans. To close the week, on Friday we had Coolcyl and the Hillside Rappers, a community rap group, come and perform at our school during lunch time. That day we took all the cans to the recycling center. Now other teachers and students are still recycling.
Peter Haroum, Polytechnic High

I have been enjoying YCS for two years. The greatest goal that I achieved was helping plant trees for the King Boulevard Memorial Project on January 13, 1990. I feel that planting a tree is a way to help our damaged environment, especially here in the city where I live.
Lesvia Lambaren, Manual Arts High

This year in YCS we have done many things to help with the environment in our community. We have helped with campus beautification, beach clean-up, and the list goes on. I just joined YCS this semester, but many of the things I have seen have proven to be very beneficial to the community.
Stella Belgarde, Westchester High

There was much excitement in YCS this year. We have done a lot of work to benefit the school. To raise money for campus beautification, we held a pancake breakfast. We also organized a campus beautification day and planted new plants, picked up trash and created a beautiful flower garden. We repainted the parking lot and shined our "Achieve with Honor" sign. YCS members are excited about upcoming activities and we are looking forward to the years of community service ahead.
Malora "Lori" Guerrero, Westchester High

Venice High has participated in the Adopt-a-Beach Program and more recently has helped in the planning of Earth Day 1990. Through our involvement with the Venice community and our school administration, we have learned exactly how the process of developing projects is carried out.

Through YCS I have become more motivated to play an active part in society. I have met many wonderful people who care about their environment and want to do something positive. I look forward to more YCS in my life, not only as an extra-curricular activity.
Joan Mateo, Venice High

The members of Jordan High School's YCS club are wiping out graffiti in an all out effort to beautify their school campus. This project began on March 5, 1990 and continued to the end of the school year. This project beautifies our campus, and shows everyone - staff, students, and the community - that we really care about our school and that graffiti, written by a select few, will not be tolerated by the masses.
Jordan High

GRAFFITI
Heavy Rollers
Drool with paint . . .
I run over
someone else's
stupidity.
Beni Seballos, Reseda High

On Saturday, March 24 I had a great time with my friends in YCS at Reseda Park painting out graffiti. The Chamber of Commerce sponsored us. We were driven around to different sites. When we arrived we jumped out, racing to see who could paint out the most graffiti! It did not seem like work at all.

Lots of people who are not in YCS came to help. YCS provides a common ground for everyone. The women from the Chamber of Commerce respected us. We got along like peers. After we finished, we were treated to lunch. Thanks YCS for the chance to meet people with a responsibility to the community like me!
Charissa Keinath, Reseda High

Fremont YCS member recycles at Leadership Retreat.

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YCS IN

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ACTION

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AND MANY OTHER PROJECTS

We have been involved in many volunteer service projects and have attended many conferences, and I am happy to say, "YEAH! SAN PEDRO!! We have the YCS Magic!"

Youth Community Service is really great, and it could not have existed without a sponsor. San Pedro's sponsor is high-spirited, motivated, willing, caring and dedicated. The important person behind Pedro's YCS is none other than Ms. Beth Sohngen! She has been nice enough to go out of her was to set up carpools and even pick students up. I really appreciate all of your efforts!

The best voluntary service project I've participated in was going to TreePeople Park to plant trees and write letters to save our rain forests. It's important to mobilize our minds towards the betterment of the quality of our environment, walking on trails, meeting people, and getting close to nature.

The best conference of all was at UCLA. At the Campus Outreach Opportunity League Conference there were many workshops pertaining to various social issues; college and high schools students shared ideas to resolve certain issues. You can't imagine how much college and high school students have in common and how much we can learn from each other. It was an exciting, worthwhile learning experience. It was fun at UCLA to have Ms. Sohngen, a UCLA alumna, give us a personalized tour around the big, beautiful campus with many fascinating views, architectural buildings and statues.

Everyone should be involved with YCS. Everything you do is fun, worthwhile, gratifying, and helpful to other people. You may not realize how fun volunteering is unless you go for it. So, GO OUT AND VOLUNTEER!!
Jane Ong, San Pedro High

About 20 members of David Starr Jordan High YCS boarded a bus December 15, to visit a convalescent hospital and Martin Luther King Jr. Medical Center.

The first stop was Fountain Garden Convalescent Hospital. Upon arrival, YCS was greeted by Mary McGowan who took them to the recreation room where the elderly were assembled. Annie Jones, YCS sponsor, introduced the group and thanked Ms. McGowan for the invitation to visit. YCS members sang Christmas carols and LaKesha Townsend performed a skit that the whole audience enjoyed. Students passed out fruit baskets and talked with the elderly.

The next stop was Martin Luther King Medical Center. Bernadette Bowman took YCS members to the children's ward of the hospital. Despite the impressive facilities for children, the group was relieved that not many children were housed there during the holiday period. Ms. Bowman took them to the day clinic where there were many more children to receive Christmas stockings and see the skit.

YCS members boarded the bus to return to school. They were very gleeful as they discussed the expressions of happiness on the faces of the elderly and the children.
Jordan High

On March 4, 1990 the world turned out for the 5th Annual Los Angeles Marathon to help cheer the runners, assisting in the entertainment areas, passing out balloons and records. Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies (L.A.C.E.S.) YCS students Sean Harris and Carl Christopher participated at mile 17 passing out pom-poms and cheering the runners as they came. Jennifer Silverman and Mamaui Bedford worked at the Mile 26 entertainment area and were also cheering the runners.

The kids worked very hard making the Marathon successful at their assigned booths. Best of all, we had fun!
Henry Lo, L.A.C.E.S.

This year Washington Prep High's YCS had a good year. We had food drives at Christmas and Easter. We visited older people care centers a number of times for Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter and in October.

Individual members organized parties at nursery schools in our areas for Halloween, Christmas, and Valentine's Day, and organized an Easter Egg Hunt.
Rebecca L. Baker, Washington Prep High

When I first joined YCS, I was surprised at how the group worked and all the plans being made. One of our first projects was collecting canned food for the homeless. We all contributed to buy a stuffed toy to raffle. For each can of food a person donated, they received a raffle ticket. Later, someone donated a larger toy, which we gave away to the person who brought the most cans of food the day of the raffle.

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Later we went on a marvelous two-day trip to YCS Leadership Camp! I met many people with much more experience than I, and they helped me become more familiar with this country. But, above all, being with so many young people my age I learned to share good times. Without knowing them, I gave them my friendship. I talked with people from different countries. What impressed me most was seeing how we all ate under the same roof. To me, that was a great family - the great YCS family!
Artemio Escarzaga, Fremont High

For the past year and a half I have been an active YCS member. Ever since I started with YCS I have been heavily involved with the community. I started by organizing a canned food drive and distributing the food to needy families.

A few months later, through YCS I got involved with Tree People and we did another great community project. We participated in the Martin Luther King project - planting 300 pine trees along King Boulevard. Right now, I am the current president of YCS at Manual Arts and a 3rd year member of the peer counseling group.
Oscar Puentes, Manual Arts High

On Sunday, March 11, Hamilton High YCS was invited to take pledges from callers at the KCET fund drive. The UCLA Bruins' Community Service group, some senior volunteers, and members of other organizations, showed up for the event. Over 15 YCS members from Hamilton and our sponsor, Fred Von Dohlen, came to answer phones, take pledges, and have tremendous amounts of fun!

At KCET, we were nicely greeted and treated to a large buffet that included everything you can think of. Most of the members, myself included, were nervous at taking the first and second pledges. But once we got the hang of it, things went smoothly. Towards the end, prizes from raffles were given out. I won a beautiful vase. Other prizes included KCET handbags, comic books, flowers, and mugs.

KCET is asking Hamilton YCS to return in June, and I personally don't have any complaints that would keep me from going. See you there!
Joseph Ghebrial, Hamilton High

Hamilton YCS registers volunteers for blood drive.

At first I wondered why I couldn't get my students to write an article this year. I think they feel that doing so would be a form of bragging about their accomplishments. I think they know that the true reward of community service comes when the service is rendered. Their personal reward, I am proud to say, is not derived from accolades (welcome though they may be) and their reflection is a silent, inward process begun at some time during the planning of a project and culminating at some time in the future - after they have gone on to become whatever fortune will have them.

The time they have taken for reflection, sharing of ideas and feelings about the 25 projects that they have completed this year was well warranted. I wish they would write about how great it was to be a member of YCS at Van Nuys High and how great an impact service has had upon their lives. Their faces speak louder than any words ever could. Their eyes say what words would, with their limited power, probably not convey.

If I had articles, they would express how deeply moved we were when we went to Laurelwood Convalescent Center to give a Valentine's Day party, and the rewards of providing a needy family with gifts and food for Christmas. These articles would stand as proof of how the youth of today can make this world a better place. The words would represent heartfelt sentiments and deep emotions epitomized by tangible deeds. The world would unknowingly say the deeds were great and the people who did them even greater. Unknowingly, the world would applaud and the vision that set the doer to the deed, the vision that created a catalytic environment in which the deed could occur, the vision that transformed obstacles into milestones would be lost. I wonder if sometimes, after we reach the end of our journey we should forget how and why we journeyed so far and just savor the first step, just hold the vision in our hearts and sigh.

Every year I learn something valuable from my YCS students as I survey their growth and commitment. This year I learned something wonderful as well. Reflection is the positive pontification of vision enacted through deeds. Our articles are living, breathing, testimonials, and I am well satisfied.
Sharon Shiree, Van Nuys High YCS Sponsor

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WE SERVE AND WE LEARN

By becoming involved in projects which improve the community, I learned I can make a great difference in reshaping the world I live in. Through YCS I have found fulfillment in helping other who cannot help themselves. I have learned that anyone who cares and is willing to give can make a difference.

The YCS experience has taught me many things about myself. I discovered I have leadership ability and can make the most of my abilities my executing projects that will aid my community. I have learned to give without receiving and not expecting a reward for my service. The YCS experience will touch you like you have never been touched!
Wendy Hernandez, Canoga Park High

I have learned to work with others in reaching goals. I have learned to be more responsible when people trust me with projects. I have learned that giving a little effort is better than no effort at all.
John Kwon, Canoga Park High

This is a story about a youth that thought life was lazy. That youth was me, Leopoldo Medina. He thought that life was easy, but he was wrong; life is hard. He did not grow up like other youth with a spoon in his mouth. He has to work to put the love and trust of the people in the community, because no one will give it to him freely. He is a great youth that can make a change in the community by building a community youth center. This youth has the world at his feet, because he knows that he can be a great community leader. He has a dream that the world will be a better place to live, because the youth of the year 2000 will make changes!

I would like to say thank you to all the people that helped me get here and those who counted on me. Because if it were not for them, I would either be in jail or dead. Thank you to mom and dad who were always in my corner. Thank you to Megan, John Ray, and all of my teachers. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I will not say goodbye. I will say, see you later.
Leopoldo Medina, Van Nuys High

Participating in YCS is great! I've done things I had never experienced before. For example, this was my first year going to the L.A. Marathon. Seeing millions and millions of runners running down the streets of L.A. was fun. It got me to think that if you really want to fulfill your goals you should run after them. You must train yourself first and YCS can train you!

As a YCS member I learn new things from every conference or retreat I go to. I always wanted to make a difference but I found it difficult, but in YCS it's not hard at all. You just need spirit confidence, enthusiasm and desire. YCS has helped expand my horizons as I meet new people. I am proud to say I am from YCS. I am making the community a better place to live.
Hilary Mejia, San Pedro High

I have been in YCS for three years and it has been a great experience for me. There are good people in YCS and real good teacher sponsors. I have met many nice people through YCS.
Lawrence Jackson, Washington Prep High

Through YCS I have learned how much our help is needed in our community and how much I can contribute to these needs.

In the future I hope to contribute more, now that I know how much I really can do.
Amber Black, Venice High

LAUSD Board President Jackie Goldberg with Manual Arts High at the YCS Summit.

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I never thought much about community service until I started high school. I could never understand why my sisters "waste" their time volunteering. Now I know.

My first memorable activity was painting over the Franklin High YCS adopt-a-wall. At first I didn't want to take the time, but something inside me told me to do it. After the wall was painted, I felt good! I knew I had done something right.

Occasionally I volunteer at a nearby church playing with underprivleged children. My stress goes away each time I step on the playground. I feel like a kid again. Not only am I helping the children, but they are helping me.

It is hard to put into words the satisfaction I feel each time I volunteer. Little things I do may not mean much, but I want to make a difference as does every other volunteer.

Yim Tam, Franklin High School

YCS has provided me with insight and awareness not only to environmental concerns but also to human relations through friendly interaction with other high school students.

Being a new participant, I sometimes find myself overshadowed. But I am constantly working towards better things, which will have an excellent impact on my future lifestyle and social skills.

Yarinya "Yari" Taliban, Westchester High

YOUTH POLICY

On Thursday, April 19, five YCSA students testified before council members Richard Alatorree and Joy Picus, representing the Labor Relations and Human Resources Committee of the Los Angeles City Council, on a policy drafted by Councilman Richard Alatorre titled "A Better L.A. for Kids."

These escerpts reveal their opinions regarding the policy and their visions of Los Angeles.

Good morning everyone. I am very pleased to be here and express my thoughts and feelings about the Children's Policy, and how we can improve the City that we live in.

One important thing this policy recommends is that the City and school districts work together in planning programs like tutoring, community service groups, and art classes. This cooperation might help solve after school child care problems, teach kids to be productive, and bring them off the streets.

My vision for the City in about 10 years is very simple. I see a place where children don't have to dodge bullets or see their friends shot; a place where children can go out to play without the fear of getting kidnapped; a place where a child really does receive adequate food, clothing and shelter; a place where a child is educated about their environment and culture.

We can meet this vision of the City if we implement programs which make children productive people that help each other. One organization that does a great job with students and community service is the Constitutional Rights Foundation which sponsors high school programs such as Youth Leadership For Action and Youth Community Service. From my own experience in these programs, I have developed leadership skills, confidence, and a large amount of self esteem. I have been able to lead and participate in tree-planting on Martin Luther King Blvd, toy drives, caroling for the elderly and much more. With another classmate, I developed the first two community service groups at elementary schools. These programs involve children in leadership projects like cleaning up school litter, planting flowers, and making cards for the elderly. Recently they made and collected 72 cards for a boy with brain cancer.

The way I see it children are the best resources for our future and without our help, the future does not seem bright. We need to make children comfortable with their City. They need to know that when there is a need in the City they can help, and when they need help, the City will help them. A child should not be denied the right to participate in a program which involves the improvement of the City due to poor grades. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve."

Liliana Narvaez, Franklin High School

Every time I go out to play I see garbage and graffiti. I see many things that need to be changed. I think every kid in Los Angeles has the right to live in a safe, clean environment. I think we should get a better education. We need more teachers who make kids interested in learning. There are many good teachers who make learning fun, but some need to work harder. All of us need to help improve our environment. One way to do this is to do community service. Many people think little kids can't do anything, but yesterday and lots of other days, we have proven them wrong. Yesterday, in honor of Earth Day, our Youth Community Service group planted 50 flowers on our school campus. We had fun doing something good! Many people think community service takes up too much time, but I think community service means to make time.

Cesar Narvaez, 5th Grade
Latona Avenue Elementary, Los Angeles

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. . . OUR VIEWS

I remember talking to my neighbor who is well into her 80's. She talked about how life was 30 years before. She told me people never worried about locking their doors or letting their kids go out to play. Los Angeles has changed a lot. Unfortunately, it has changed for the worst. People no longer feel safe. My vision of Los Angeles is a peaceful place where we feel secure living in our neighborhood.

I remember when I left my Communist homeland for America. I felt the freedom granted by the United States government. It was quite a change for me to have such great freedom. I thank our Founding Fathers who thought of equality for all people. I think we should follow their ideas by giving children a voice. Decisions make a person feel more important, care more, and get more involved.

A 1988 survey showed that the City spent about 133 million of a 2.6 billion dollar budget on children's needs. I think more money should be spent on children because we are the future. Children's needs should be one of the top priorities, for we will someday be sitting in your seats.

Children shouldn't worry about financial matters. They should concentrate on school. There are many teenagers today who work and go to school at the same time. They work not because they want to, but because they have to. I spend over 40 hours per week at school and at least 15 hours per week at work. I don't have enough time for my school work, therefore I am not able to do my best. Again it happens to many teenagers. We are forced to take responsibility at a young age. This is not easy.

I think everyone in the community should work together and accept this challenge for a brighter future.

Wing Tam, Franklin High School

There is a large percentage of high school drop-outs because of social problems. Family problems and academic pressure cause kids to runaway and not face the demands. Being a run away with no place to stay, no education, and no work is difficult to manage. It is our responsibility to give children their rights and provide a safe environment which allows them to succeed. Give them an opportunity to speak about what they think should be done. Kids need to be recognized for what they do and how they can succeed with the help of their community. It hurts me to see kids being treated as a minority. We are human too! The youth are the leaders of tomorrow and must be recognized for this huge job ahead of them!

Tracy Tran, Canoga Park High

I find that more pressure is being put on teenagers every day. There are drug problems, pregnancy and abortion matters, parents divorcing and money problems. Many of us have to work for a living to support our parents. I feel like I am aging too soon and I am only 16 years old. There are peer pressures in school and some teachers tend to get upset at the lack of discipline and forget that we are students living in the 1990's and we are learning with every new step we take. Being in high school means the very beginning of real maturity. But above all what we really need is some extra love. Children are the ones who really need love because they represent something very special. Thank you for caring.

Pauline Ishar, Canoga Park High

TEACHERS: WE THANK YOU

Dear YCS Teacher Sponsors:

You have been an inspiration to YCS members. You have contributed your time and have really shown your commitment. This motivates us to strive toward that same commitment. Through each YCS experience we have learned a great deal about ourselves and what it takes to be a leader. A great deal of that credit goes to you. We will continue with YCS and volunteer through high school, college, and life, because you have shown us that service is worthwhile and rewarding.

Thank you!

YCS Students

The YCS teacher sponsors provide support, encouragement, guidance, resources and training. The success of the YCS program is dependent upon this group of teachers.

The Constitutional Rights Foundation staff and the 1989-90 Youth Community Service students thank you, the YCS Teacher Sponsors, for your dedication to youth and to Youth Community Service!

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YCS SCHOOL ROSTER

High School	Administrator	Principal	Teacher Sponsor
Belmont High	Marta Bin	Ignacio Garcia	Ella Roberts
			Bonnie Roche-Blair
			Ron Williamson
Canoga Park High	Charles Molina	William Kinder	Tom Doyle
Center for			
Enriched Studies	Marion B. Colllins	Marion B. Collins	Sharon Gage
Dorsey High	Jerelene Wells	Jerelene Wells	Bill Graham
Franklin High	Ed Rosas	Chris Zardenta	Laura Daly
Fremont High	John P. Haydel Jr.	Bob Spears	Enrique Carranza
			John Mullens
Granada Hills High	Ann Falotico	Allan Donen	Gordon Hom
Grant High	Robert Collins	Ruth Shaw	Mark Bresee
Hamilton High	Betty Maltby	Elizabeth Metzelaar	Fred Von Dohlen
			Karen Giblin
Huntington Park High	Antonio Garcia	Marv Gunderson	Elva Miller
			Michael French
			Barbara Doten
Jordan High	Grace Strauther	Debrah Moss	Annie Jones
Lincoln High	Lupe Sonnie	William Chew	Ken Warwick
Los Angeles High	Pat DeSantis	Margaret Roland	Dana Tom
Manual Arts High	Marvin Starer	Sharon Dewees	Lily Menkes
Polytechnic High	Virginia Holt	Linda Silvey	Donna "Nikki" Vaughan
Reseda High	Robert Kladifko	Barbara Garry	JoAnn Ray
Roosevelt High	Henry Ronquillo	Art Del Rio	Jose Ruibal
			John Perez
			Frank Nastasi
San Pedro High	Joe Viola	Shirley Andrews	Beth Sohngen
University High	Jack C. Moscowitz	Tom Rayburn	Wendy Wilson
Van Nuys High	Robert Scharf	Floria Anderson	Sharon Shiree
Venice High	Andrea Natker	Bud Jacobs	Fred Siegel
Washington Prep High	Larry Higgins	Silvia Rousseau	Shirley Morris
		Yvonne Mason	Donna Ausby
	Eileen Banta	Bettie Andrews	Hardiman Cureton
Westchester High	Jay Davis	Jay Davis	Miriam Eden
Widney High			

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SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

SPECIAL THANKS to the following Community Resource Volunteers

RICHARD ALATORRE, Los Angeles City Council Member
FRED ANDERSON, TreePeople
GEORGE ARMENDARIZ, Para Los Ninos
CAROL ARNETT, Sojourn
WENDY ARNOLD, Adolescent Alliance
MARY ATHERTON, Special Olympics
GARY BAER, Parks and Recreation
CARVEL BASS, Student Conservation Association
ADRIENNE BAUSLEY, YCS/YLFA Alumni
LISA BENNETT, Youth Gang Services
NANCY BERLIN, House of Ruth
DAVID BLANCO, Standard Brands Paint Company
MIKE BUJAZAN, LAUSD
MARSHA CIFARELLI, TreePeople
CARRIE COWAN, MEND (Meeting Each Need With Dignity)
MARTHA DIEPENBROCK, Los Angeles Conservation Corps
PAULETTE DOLIN, TreePeople
JOHN EMERSON, Chief Deputy City Attorney
DONNA ESKWITT, Community Speech and Hearing Center
DOLORES ESTRADA, YCS/YLFA Alumni
STEPHEN LONGFELLOW FISKE, Singer
ANDREW FOSTER, American Red Cross
DUSTY GARZA, L.A. Kids
PETE GETOFF, El Nido
JOHN GLASS, Volunteer Center of the San Fernando Valley
NASH GONZALEZ, International Institute
MARK ANTONIO GRANT, Southern California Air Quality Management District
TONY GUILLEAN, A World of Difference
ETIENNE HARVEY, Center for Communicative Development
HELEN HERNANDEZ, The Legacy Group
SUSAN ILES, Community Speech and Hearing Center
ODARIS JORDAN, LAUSD
JULIE KORENSTEIN, LAUSD Board of Education
STEVE LACKEY, Braille Institute
ANDY LIPKIS, TreePeople
GLORIA LOPEZ, Pacific Boulevard School
GENE MARSH, O.A.S.I.S.
PETE McGEE, Student Conservation Association
CHUCK MEYER, TreePeople
RON McCAULEY, Los Angeles High
JOHN MENDLEIN, Heal the Bay
DAVID MEREAUX, Children of the Night
OLIVIA MITCHELL, Office of the Mayor
LUPE MUNOZ, Office of the Mayor
DAVID NAGLE, Chrysalis Center
MARLENE NANUS, Westside Child Trauma Council
OFFICER NEIMAN, D.A.R.E.
MANNY PADILLA, The Daily News
OFFICER PALKA, D.A.R.E.
JOY PICUS, Los Angeles City Council Member
LYNDA PLATT, C.H.A.M.P.S.
KAREN REISCH, Family Assistance Program of Hollywood
MARTHA REPOLLET, Encampment for Citizenship
BONNIE ROTH, Office of Councilman Richard Alatorre
BRUCE SAITO, Los Angeles Conservation Corps
JAMES SAKAMOTO, YCS/YLFA Alumni
CARLA SANGER, L.A.'s Best
MARY SCHRAEGER, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
CLAIRE SEGAL, The Segal Company
ROB SHUMER, UCLA
BRENDA STEVENSON, American Red Cross L.A. Chapter, South Bay District
CHUCK SUPPLE, California Compact
ANGELLA TIGER, YCS/YLFA Alumni
RHONDA TROTTER, California Tomorrow
JULIE TUGEND, Office of the Mayor
MARIJO VARVARO, Johnson & Higgins
JOSE ZELAYA, Children's Institute International

Etienne Harvey, Center for Communicative Development, leads "Itsy Bitsy Spider" in sign language.

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THANKS TO THE COMMUNITY

The success of Youth Community Service depends on the support of community agencies and members. We thank you for advising students, providing volunteer opportunities and participating in leadership development activities.

Amberwood Convalescent Hospital
American Red Cross
Amnesty International
Applause Toy Company
ARCO Corporation
Assemblywoman Teresa Hughes
Bandini Elementary School
Boys Market
Braille Institute
California Scholarship Federation, Granada Hills High
Cathy's Sugar Plum Tree
Center for Communicative Development
Centro De Ninos
Choosing Healthy Alternatives Makes People Strong
Chrysalis Center
City Attorney James K. Hahn
City Council of Huntington Park
Clare Center
Continental Baking Co.
Councilman Robert Farrell
Councilman Michael Woo
Councilman John Ferraro
Councilman Gilbert W. Lindsay
Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky
Councilman Joel Wachs
Councilman Nate Holden
Councilman Ernani Bernardi
Councilman Hal Bernson
Councilman Richard Alatorre
Councilman Marvin Braude
Councilwoman Joan Milke Flores
Councilwoman Ruth Galanter
Councilwoman Joy Picus
Councilwoman Gloria Molina
Country Villa South Convalescent Home
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Don's Fountain of Health
Fountain Valley Convalescent Hospital
Fred's Bakery and Deli
Friends of Library, Van Nuys
Good Samaritan Hospital
Hathaway Home
Huntington Park Police Department
Huntington Park Rotary Club
International Institute
James Dunson
James Snider
Jeff Cullum
Keiro Nursing Home
Kentucky Fried Chicken
King Drew Medical Center
King Boulevard Project
La Tapatia
Laurelwood Convalescent Home
Library Adult Reading Program (LARP)
Los Angeles County Parks & Recreation Centers
Los Angeles Conservation Corps
Los Angeles Unified School District Area Facilities Director
Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles Beautiful
Los Angeles Volunteer Action Center
Los Angeles Police Department
Los Angeles Clippers
Los Angeles Police Department-Project D.A.R.E.
Los Angeles City Department of Parks and Recreation
Los Angeles Unified School District Painting Technical Supervisor
Los Angeles Marathon Committee
Love Is Feeding Everyone (L.I.F.E.)
Lowman School
Mar Vista Elementary School
Mar Vista Community Center
March of Dimes Walkathon
Marla's Memory Lane
McDonald's Restaurants
Mid City Chamber of Commerce
Mitchell Albanese
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Patrick
Operation Safe Streets
Pacific Boulevard School for the Handicapped
Para Los Ninos
Penguin's Yogurt
Pepsi Cola
Project O.A.S.I.S.
Project D.A.R.E.
Robertson Library
Scott Lameer
Senator Bill Greene
Shakey's
Sparklettes Water Co.
Special Olympics
Standard Brands Paint Company
Student Conservation Association
Studio Royale Convalescent Hospital
TreePeople
Venice Family Clinic
Volunteer Center of the San Fernando Valley
Woodcrest Elementary School
Young Actors United

This YCS Annual Report is printed on recycled paper.

ALUMNI NEWS

Even though I graduated from Los Angeles High in 1987, I never quite left the Youth Community Service family. In tenth grade I first became aware of YCS and frankly, had no intention of joining. Selfish motives of extra credit convinced me to join. In addition, I was aware that volunteer work and extracurricular activities didn't hurt my chances of getting into a university. Little did I know the events over the next three years would ultimately affect my self-confidence, friendships, and essentially my entire outlook on life.

As YCS went by too quickly. As projects came and went I wondered if I had really made a difference. *I always answered: YES! I never set* out to solve all of the world's problems, but I knew collectively, we could make a difference by constructing the building blocks for the future members.

YCS became much more than the extra English credit I never received! Improving my leadership and organizational skills proved more beneficial in the long run. My YCS experience is the major reason why I attend USC. Without scholarships, USC's outrageous tuition cost would prove too costly for my family. One scholarship I was fortunate enough to receive was the Norman Topping Student Aid Fund with selection based primarily on financial need and volunteer experience.

Part of being a Topping Scholar at USC requires I continue to volunteer. Last year, I enjoyed working as a peer counselor at Los Angeles High aiding students in the College Office. This year, I came full circle by working for the YCS Alumni Association at the CRF office. I look forward to the challenges that lie ahead and I hope some of my experience will make YCS stronger than ever.

James Sakamoto, USC Student
Los Angeles High Alumnus

The YCS/YLFA Alumni Association is off and running! Hundreds of program alumni from the last eight years offer college and career advice to students in the program, and participate in conferences, retreats and other activities! Program participants who are high school graduates may receive a registration form from Jennifer at CRF, (213) 487-5590.

Mark your calendars! The YCS/YLFA Alumni Reunion will be Wednesday, July 11 at 6:00 p.m. at CRF office, 601 S. Kingsley Drive in Los Angeles. For more information call us!

YLFA, or Youth Leadership For Action, another CRF program, began in 1982 with high school students learning leadership and performing community service.

THE NATIONAL SCENE

Now we are SIX! Years old that is... Youth Community Service (YCS) has completed its sixth year as a collaboration between the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF). During this 1989-90 school year, CRF staff has been pleased to assist the local and national community service movement in a variety of ways:

- CRF staff has presented information about starting similar programs around the country including: the National Council for the Social Studies Conference in St. Louis, the President's Youth Leadership Forum in Washington D.C., the Wingspread Conference for High School Educators in Racine, Your City's Kids in Seattle, the Council for the Advancement of Citizenship Conference in Washington D.C. and more!
- Our national newsletter *School Youth Service NETWORK* continues to receive praises from educators, program administrators and policy makers across the country. Thanks to continued funding form the *Ford Foundation*, four more issues are guaranteed, featuring exemplary program profiles, materials, curriculum ideas, and articles on current topics.
- Thanks to the *California Community Foundation*, YCS staff held Communtiy Service Forums in Riverside, Orange and Los Angeles Counties showcasing successful models and methodologies that promote effective community service efforts.
- CRF's Executive Director *Todd Clark* met with Greg Petersmeyer, Director of the White House Office on National Service, and staff working with Senator Edward Kennedy and Congressman Augustus Hawkins to discuss national youth service legislation.
- February 4-6, 1990, CRF staff were the programmatic leaders for the K-12 segment at the first *California Comprehensive Youth Service Conference* held in Sacramento.
- The *Southern California Youth Service Collaboration* held meetings at CRF, bringing together representatives from colleges, conservation corps, schools, and youth service agencies to think, share ideas and provide service together.
- YCS "north" got off the ground this spring through a cooperative partnership between the City of Palo Alto, the Palo Alto Unified School District, Ravenswood School District, Stanford University, the Mid-Peninsula YWCA and CRF. The *Youth Community Service Project*, involves junior and senior high schools in leadership and community service activities.

Youth Community Service, Los Angeles style, continues to be among the biggest and the best! Your contributions make a difference on the national front and at home. Way to go YCS!

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